

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-112. (Canceled)

113. (Currently Amended) A mechanical fastener comprising:

a fibrous web having a first major side and a second major side;

a plurality of discrete polymeric regions fused to the fibrous web such that polymer of the plurality of discrete polymeric regions is entangled with the fibrous web, wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions comprises a discrete patch having a perimeter that is entirely bordered by the first major side of the fibrous web, and wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions are located only on the first major side of the fibrous web, and further wherein the second major side of the fibrous web is at least partially exposed and comprises unexposed regions; and

a plurality of stems extending from each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions.

114. (Currently Amended) A web construction comprising:

a fibrous nonwoven web comprising a first major side, a second major side, and an indefinite length;

a plurality of discrete polymeric regions attached to the first major side of the fibrous nonwoven web, wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions comprises a discrete patch of polymer having a perimeter that is entirely surrounded by the first major side of the fibrous nonwoven web, and wherein the second major side of the fibrous nonwoven web is at least partially exposed and comprises unexposed regions; and

a plurality of stems extending from each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a free, unattached end.

115. (Currently Amended) A web construction comprising:

a fibrous nonwoven web comprising a first major side, a second major side, and an indefinite length;

a plurality of discrete polymeric regions attached to the first major side of the fibrous nonwoven web, wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions comprises substantially circular patches of polymer, and wherein the second major side of the fibrous nonwoven web is ~~at least~~ partially exposed and comprises unexposed regions; and

a plurality of stems extending from each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a free, unattached end.

116. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web comprises an elastic material.

117. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web comprises loop structures adapted to lock with the plurality of stems.

118. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein for each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, one or more stems of the plurality of stems extend from an interior of the discrete polymeric region.

119. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web comprises a woven web.

120. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web comprises a knit web.

121. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web comprises a nonwoven web.

122. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook or a mushroom head.

123. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the fibrous web defines a localized plane, and wherein the plurality of stems are oriented at angles that are not normal to the localized plane.

124. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 123, wherein the plurality of stems are angled in multiple directions relative to the localized plane.

125. (New) A mechanical fastener according to claim 113, wherein the unexposed regions correspond to the discrete polymeric regions and comprise an unexposed region having a perimeter that is entirely bordered by the second major side of the fibrous web.

126. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises an elastic material.

127. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises loop structures adapted to lock with the plurality of stems.

128. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein for each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, one or more stems of the plurality of stems extend from an interior of the discrete polymeric region.

129. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook or a mushroom head.

130. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web defines a localized plane, and wherein the plurality of stems are oriented at angles that are not normal to the localized plane.

131. (New) A web construction according to claim 130, wherein the plurality of stems are angled in multiple directions relative to the localized plane.

132. (New) A web construction according to claim 114, wherein the unexposed regions correspond to the discrete polymeric regions and comprise an unexposed region having a perimeter that is entirely bordered by the second major side of the fibrous nonwoven web.

133. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises an elastic material.

134. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises loop structures adapted to lock with the plurality of stems.

135. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein for each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, one or more stems of the plurality of stems extend from an interior of the discrete polymeric region.

136. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook or a mushroom head.

137. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web defines a localized plane, and wherein the plurality of stems are oriented at angles that are not normal to the localized plane.

138. (New) A web construction according to claim 137, wherein the plurality of stems are angled in multiple directions relative to the localized plane.

139. (New) A web construction according to claim 115, wherein the unexposed regions correspond to the discrete polymeric regions and comprise an unexposed region having a perimeter that is entirely bordered by the second major side of the fibrous nonwoven web.

140. (New) A web construction comprising:

a fibrous nonwoven web comprising a first major side, a second major side, and an indefinite length;

a plurality of discrete polymeric regions attached to the first major side of the fibrous nonwoven web, wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions comprises a discrete patch of polymer having a perimeter that is entirely surrounded by the first major side of the fibrous nonwoven web, wherein the second major side of the fibrous nonwoven web is at least partially exposed, and wherein any of the polymer forming the discrete patch that may be present on the second major side is provided by the polymer extending from the first major side through the fibrous nonwoven web to the second major side; and

a plurality of stems extending from each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a free, unattached end.

141. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises an elastic material.

142. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web comprises loop structures adapted to lock with the plurality of stems.

143. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein for each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, one or more stems of the plurality of stems extend from an interior of the discrete polymeric region.

144. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a mushroom head.

145. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook.

146. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein the fibrous nonwoven web defines a localized plane, and wherein the plurality of stems are oriented at angles that are not normal to the localized plane.

147. (New) A web construction according to claim 146, wherein the plurality of stems are angled in multiple directions relative to the localized plane.

148. (New) A web construction according to claim 140, wherein the discrete patch of polymer is substantially circular.

149. (New) A web construction comprising:

 a continuous thermoplastic film comprising a first major side, a second major side, and an indefinite length;

 a plurality of discrete polymeric regions fused to the first major side of the continuous thermoplastic film; and

 a plurality of stems extending from each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a free, unattached end.

150. (New) A web construction according to claim 149, wherein for each discrete polymeric region of the plurality of polymeric regions, one or more stems of the plurality of stems extend from an interior of the discrete polymeric region.

151. (New) A web construction according to claim 149, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a mushroom head.

152. (New) A web construction according to claim 149, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook.

153. (New) A web construction according to claim 149, wherein the continuous thermoplastic film is microporous.

154. (New) A web construction according to claim 149, wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric regions comprises a discrete patch of polymer having a perimeter that is entirely bordered by the first major side of the continuous thermoplastic film.